



NEWSRELEASE

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February 19, 2002

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Scottsdale offers help to relieve rat problem

The City of Scottsdale is working with the City of Phoenix and Maricopa County in a joint effort to help control the problem of roof rat infestation in the Arcadia area.

Residents are advised to remove all fruit from their citrus and pomegranate trees, pick up all fallen fruit immediately, and bag and tie citrus and debris, as well as dead rodents, before disposing in city roll-off bins. The bins are being provided by the solid waste departments of both cities, at no additional cost to the residents. They will be monitored daily for disposal.

Scottsdale officials have identified three sites for bins: the southeast corner of Camelback and 66th Street; the dead end of 64th Street and Calle Redonda; and in a bike lane adjacent to Lafayette Park, north of Indian School and west of 68th Street. Scottsdale brush crews will also be in the area the weeks of February 18 and March 18.

“Scottsdale is working in conjunction with the city of Phoenix and Maricopa County to create a joint effort to assist residents in the eradication of the roof rats.” said Judy Register, general manager of Scottsdale’s Citizen & Neighborhood Resources Department.

Roof rats, nocturnal by nature, stay above ground, making nests in attics, trees, wood and lumber piles, storage boxes and yard and garden storage areas. Citizens are encouraged to control the rat problem by:

- Keeping wood and other material off the ground and away from walls
- Positioning traps in high places like fence tops and eaves.
- Taking precautions when trapping or killing roof rats by wrapping them in plastic bags and discarding in refuse containers
- Sealing any cracks or holes in the walls of homes and garages
- Keeping all points of home entry closed, including windows, doors and pet-entry doors
- Repairing leaky faucets to prevent any standing water

For collection guidelines, Scottsdale residents may contact the Solid Waste Management Division at 312-5600. For more information on the infestation area, call the Maricopa County Environmental Services division at (602) 506-6616. For more information on roof rats, visit <http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc/>.